

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Career Pathways

### ***Q.1. What are career clusters?***

A.1. Career clusters provide a way for a school to organize instruction and student experience around 16 broad categories that encompass virtually all occupations from entry level through professional levels. The career cluster approval makes it easier for students to understand the relevance of their required courses and electives in relation to a career pathway.

### ***Q. 2. What are career pathways?***

A.2. Career pathways are systemic frameworks for addressing the needs of students & employers across the learning continuum which includes a related program of studies for each pathway. Career pathways provide a coherent, articulated sequence of rigorous academic and career/technical courses including dual credit opportunities leading to postsecondary degrees and/or industry recognized certifications and/or licensures. Career Pathways are developed, implemented and maintained in partnership among secondary and postsecondary institutions, business and employers. They are available to all students, including adult learners and are designed to lead to rewarding careers.

### ***Q. 3. What is meant by program in relation to Career Clusters and Pathways in Kentucky?***

A.3. Program areas are programs of study for Career and Technical using state learning standards of career development and are organized by specific disciplines.

### ***Q. 4. How do program areas in Kentucky relate to career clusters and majors?***

A.4.

<b>Program Area</b>	<b>Career Cluster</b>	<b>Examples of Career Majors</b>
Agriculture Education	Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	Agribusiness Agribiotechnology Animal Science Systems Agriculture Education, Communication and Leadership Environmental Science & Natural Resources Food Science and Processing Systems Horticulture and Plant Systems Agriculture Power, Structural and Technical Systems

<b>Program Area</b>	<b>Career Cluster</b>	<b>Examples of Career Majors</b>
<b>Industrial Technology Education</b>	Architecture and Construction	Carpentry Electrical Technology HVAC/Air Conditioning Technology Masonry Plumbing
<b>Industrial Technology Education</b>	Arts, A/V Technology & Communications	CAD/Drafting Technology Digital Media Printing Technology Visual Arts Communications
<b>Business Education</b>	Business Management and Administration	Accounting Administrative Support Business Management Business Multimedia Business Technology Data Base Management Information Processing Legal Office Medical Office Business/Marketing Education
<b>Family and Consumer Science</b>	Education and Training	Fundamentals of Teaching
<b>Business Education</b>	Finance	Finance Accounting Finance Technology Accounting
	Government & Public Administration	
<b>Health Sciences</b>	Health Science	Allied Health Pre-Nursing General Biomedical Sciences Project Lead the Way - Biomedical Sciences Health Sciences
<b>Family and Consumer Science Marketing</b>	Hospitality & Tourism	Hospitality Services Hospitality, Travel Tourism, & Recreation

<b>Program Area</b>	<b>Career Cluster</b>	<b>Examples of Career Majors</b>
<b>Family and Consumer Sciences</b>	Human Services	Consumer and Family Management Culinary Arts Early Childhood Education Fashion and Interior Design
<b>Information Technology</b>	Information Technology	Computer Science Information Support & Services Network Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Security</li> <li>▪ CISCO</li> <li>▪ MCSA</li> </ul> Programming Web Development/Administration Informatics – Pilot/Field testing 2012 – 2013 GIS – Geographic Information Systems
	Law, Public Safety Corrections & Security	Fire Protection & Safety Technology Emergency & Fire Management Services  Law Enforcement/ Police Services Legal – Pre-Law Studies
<b>Industrial Technology Education</b>	Manufacturing	Industrial Electronic Technology Industrial Maintenance Major Appliance Repair Metal Fabrication Welding Wood Manufacturing Technology Industrial Chemical Technology Industrial Automations Technology Plastics Technology
<b>Marketing Education</b>	Marketing	Advertising E-Commerce Fashion Marketing Financial Services Management/Entrepreneurship Business Marketing Marketing Education Retailing/Wholesaling Sports Marketing

Program Area	Career Cluster	Example of Career Majors
<b>Technology Education</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	Engineering Technology Project Lead the Way - Engineering
<b>Industrial Technology Education</b>	Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	Auto Body Technology Auto Body Collision Repair Automotive Technology Aviation Technology Diesel Technology Small Engines/Motorcycles Technology Marine Technology Small Engine Repair Aviation Maintenance Flight/Aeronautics Motorcycle/Power Sports

***Q. 5. When should students begin to develop career pathways?***

A.5. Plans for a career pathway should be formalized by the ninth grade. Informal plans should be started in middle school.

***Q. 6. What is meant by courses needed to meet graduation requirement?***

A.6. Minimum graduation requirements are the courses necessary for students in achieving a high school diploma. The requirements as established by Kentucky Board of Education and any additional requirements established by local schools district.

***Q. 7. What courses are considered to be required courses for CTE?***

A.7. Within each of the career pathways, students can identify a career major. Each major includes the basic required courses identified in the Program of Studies document for the specific area.

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Career+and+Technical+Education/Career+and+Technical+Education+Programs/>

***Q. 8. Where can I find suggestions for elective courses relating to a pathway?***

A.8. Elective courses are those courses that relate to needs and interest of students and provide additional support in preparing for success in a chosen pathway.

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Career+and+Technical+Education/Career+and+Technical+Education+Programs/>

***Q. 9. How are credentials used in planning a career pathway?***

A.9. A credential provides evidence of authority, status, rights and entitlement to privileges as established by various standards. This usually is a paper document. Certificates in CTE may be awarded by local schools districts, area technology centers and industry. Industry Certification is industry's way of recognizing confirmation of subject knowledge and on the ability to perform specific tasks(s).

A diploma is awarded on the basis of completing appropriate coursework and the actual document is received at the end of high school.

Degree is a title given to an individual who has completed a prescribed course of study. Most common degrees awarded are Associate's (2 year program), Bachelor's (4 year program), Master's (5 year) and Doctoral (beyond Master's program).

Career pathways are formulated to identify the potential of a Bachelor's degree.

***Q. 10. Is a license a form of credentialing?***

A.10. Yes, it provides permission from a governmental authority to perform certain tasks (e.g. nail technician, cosmetologist and barbering).

***Q. 11. What is meant by the terms credit based transition programs?***

A.11. Dual credit means that a college – level course of study may be offered to high school students who have concurrent enrollment with a post – secondary institution. Credit is awarded by the high school and the college.

***Q. 12. Which types of programming are included in credit basis transition programs?***

A.12. Programming includes articulated agreements for credit awarded at both the high school and college level, A 2+2+2 program supports a formalized plan for articulating course work beginning in high school and continuing through two and/or four year programs.